

Dear Nebraska DHHS Technical Review Committee:

On behalf of the Nebraska Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (NAND), a non-profit organization representing 550 registered dietitians and licensed medical nutrition therapists across Nebraska, I am pleased to write this letter of support of the 407 proposal to modernize the Licensed Medical Nutrition Therapy Practice Act. I would like to thank the committee for your time in seeking to understand registered dietitians and the scope they practice within the licensed medical nutrition therapy credential.

The NAND licensure team has worked in diligent cooperation with key stakeholders to resolve any concerns from the initial application related to workflow, practice scope or statute language. Agreed resolutions can be found in application amendments.

The primary goal of professional statutes is to protect the public from harm through licensing of competent individuals. The proposed updates to the Medical Nutrition Therapy Practice Act will accomplish this by including the Nutrition Care Process, requiring supervised practice hours from all licensee applicants, aligning new requirements from the Accreditation Council of Education for Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), clarifying ambiguous practice terms, creating dual licensure pathway and updating credential title to Licensed Dietitian Nutritionist (LDN). Overall, modernizing the Medical Nutrition Therapy Practice Act will strengthen Nebraska law.

Licensed medical nutrition therapists work as part of highly qualified interdisciplinary health care teams that prioritize the needs of patients. Our profession is committed to providing high quality patient care through evidence-based medical nutrition therapy.

Thank you for your time. I'm available to answer questions.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Dunavan, NAND 2020-2021 President